

DA SILVA FREIRE  
Serial No. 09/423,517

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 71-96 are pending.

Claim 71 has been further amended above for clarity.

The claims are submitted to be in condition for allowance for the reasons noted in the Amendment of August 22, 2002.

An early and favorable Action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:



B. J. Sadoff  
Reg. No. 36,663

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100